1.   In a printing environment, a method for selectively processing a fax job using a multi-functional peripheral, the method comprising:

initiating a fax request, wherein the fax request corresponds to one of:

(i)   transmitting information via facsimile from the multi-functional peripheral;

(ii)   receiving information via facsimile at the multi-functional peripheral;

(iii)   configuring the multi-functional peripheral; and

(iv)   obtaining configuration or status information;

spooling a fax job corresponding to the fax request through a subsystem of a computer device, wherein the subsystem includes a print spooler, and wherein the fax job is constructed as a sequence of commands from a fax description language;

despooling the fax job to a printer port associated with the multi-functional peripheral; and

using the multi-functional peripheral to process the fax job.

2.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step for initiating a fax request includes:

constructing the fax job; and

scheduling the fax job for despooling.

3.   A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the step for initiating a fax request is performed by at least one of (i) a user and (ii) an application.

4.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step for spooling the fax job includes despooling the fax job to a print processor.

5   5.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step for using the multi-functional peripheral includes recognizing the fax job as a fax request.

6.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step for initiating a fax request includes at least one of:

10   opening an electronic document;

          selecting one or more print commands;

          selecting a multi-functional peripheral from a printer selection input dialog; and

          selecting one or more fax options.

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7.   A method as recited in claim 6, further comprising steps for:

          converting the document to one or more graphics device interface commands;

          sending the graphics device interface commands to a driver associated with the multi-functional peripheral; and

20   converting the graphics device interface commands to a fax format.

8.   A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising a step for interpreting at least a portion the fax job at one of (i) a client computer device, (ii) a server computer device, and (iii) the multi-functional peripheral.

5   9.   A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the step for interpreting at least a portion the fax job includes selectively performing processing relating to the fax job at one of (i) the client computer device, (ii) the server computer device, and (iii) the multi-functional peripheral.

10   10.   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein when the fax request is a request to receive information via facsimile at the multi-functional peripheral, further comprising at least one of the steps for:

selecting a target multi-functional peripheral;

selecting one or more fax options;

15   initiating a fax retrieval;

constructing the fax job; and

interpreting one or more fax description language statements.

11.   A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising a step for executing the

20   fax description language statements.

12.   A system configured to selectively exchange information via facsimile, the system comprising:

a computer device that includes a print subsystem, wherein the print subsystem includes a print spooler;

5   a multi-functional peripheral coupled to the computer device, wherein the multi-functional peripheral is configured to dynamically process a fax job that is configured to be spooled through the print subsystem, and wherein the fax job comprises a sequence of commands from a fax description language; and

a fax request generated at the computer device, wherein the fax request

10   corresponds to the fax job, and wherein the fax request corresponds to one of:

(i)   transmitting information via facsimile from the multi-functional peripheral;

(ii)   receiving information via facsimile at the multi-functional peripheral

15   (iii)   configuring the multi-functional peripheral; and

(iv)   obtaining configuration or status information.

13.   A system as recited in claim 12, further comprising a network, wherein the network couples the computer device and the multi-functional peripheral.

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14.   A system as recited in claim 13, further comprising a server coupled to the network, and wherein the computer device is a client computer device.

15.   A system as recited in claim 13, further comprising:

a second multi-functional peripheral coupled to the network; and

an interpreter coupled to and employed by the multi-functional peripherals

that is configured to accept a page description language for printing and the fax

5   description language for faxing.

16.   A system as recited in claim 15, wherein the interpreter is further configured

to accept a scan description language for scanning.

17.   A computer program product for implementing within a computer system a method for selectively processing a fax job using a multi-functional peripheral, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium for providing computer program code means utilized to implement the method, wherein the computer program code means is comprised of executable code for implementing the steps for:

constructing a fax request, wherein the fax request corresponds to one of:

(i)   transmitting information via facsimile from the multi-functional peripheral;

(ii)   receiving information via facsimile at the multi-functional peripheral;

(iii)   configuring the multi-functional peripheral; and

(iv)   obtaining configuration or status information;

spooling a fax job corresponding to the fax request through a subsystem of a computer device, wherein the subsystem includes a print spooler, and wherein the fax job is constructed as a sequence of commands from a fax description language;

despooling the fax job to a printer port associated with the multi-functional peripheral for processing of the fax job at the multi-functional peripheral.

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18. A computer program product as recited in claim 17, wherein the step for constructing the fax request includes:

constructing the fax job; and

scheduling the fax job for despooling.

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19. A computer program product as recited in claim 17, wherein the step for spooling the fax job includes despooling the fax job to a print processor.

20. A computer program product as recited in claim 17, wherein the executable

10 code further implements a step for recognizing the fax job as a fax request.

21. A computer program product as recited in claim 17, wherein the executable code further implements steps for:

converting a document, which is to be sent via facsimile, to one or more

15 graphics device interface commands;

sending the graphics device interface commands to a driver associated with the multi-functional peripheral; and

converting the graphics device interface commands to a fax format.

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